

PATRIOT'S PERIODICAL
UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS CAMP #2109
SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS
GILMER, TEXAS

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JANUARY 2019



Best Newsletter Award 2nd Place

***Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
Camps Over 50 Members June 2017 Reunion***

Best Newsletter Award 1st Place

***Texas Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans
Camps Over 50 Members June 2016 Reunion***



NEW YEARS WISHES

From: The Confederate Veteran, Jan. 1932

The old year with its many blighted hopes and aspirations has gone forever, but a new one with much prospect is with us. During the year, many have "gone down the valley, one by one," who will be forever enshrined in Southern hearts; but we, who carry on, know that "to live in hearts we leave behind is not to die."

So, now in this New Year that has come to us, let us every one bear in mind that memory must be ever with us; that those who built that we might live must not be forgotten.

Again we are privileged to say "A Happy New Year" to each of you. We turn to the New Year and breathe a prayer for health, happiness, and peace. May the Giver of all good send contentment and prosperity to our land and homes.

Loving greetings to all of you and May success cover your every effort and the thrill of joy fill your hearts.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting

*** January 8, 2019 – 6:30 PM**

Walking S Steakhouse

**Events are posted on our website On the
Calendar**

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PATRIOTS CAMP #2109

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Phil Davis, Guardian Program Chairman (R) presents Certificates to his son Larry for his Guardianship of the Hunley Crew graves.

THE GUARDIAN

By: Phil Davis

We are in a new year now. Wow, does 2019 sound odd. There were many things we had planned to do in 2018 but they just didn't get done. Was one of them to get involved in the Guardian Program?

I cannot think of a better New Year's resolution than to adopt a Confederate Soldiers final resting place and to honor him by protecting his final resting place. Give it some thought; you will receive many more blessings from it than the little effort you will have to put into this honorable service.

I had the honor to attend a nearby camp where a service to remember one of their deceased members was held. During this service I was honored to present the late Compatriot's Guardian Medal and Certificate to his Daughter. This Compatriot had just become eligible the same month as his death.

He was the guardian over seven Confederate Soldiers and all seven were transferred to one of the members of his camp. This is how the Guardian Program works, when you are unable to take care of your responsibility the graves you have

adopted can be transferred to another member of your camp or any SCV member in good standing. It can also be transferred to a non SCV male relative. If this doesn't happen the grave will be retired and open for adoption.

Gentlemen to all that receive this newsletter, I urge you to get involved in the Guardian Program. Adopt a Confederate Soldiers final resting place. Believe me, once you get involved you will come to know this hero and actually feel that you personally knew these soldiers and they will become a part of your life and family.

As I always say, I believe with all my being in the Guardian Program and it is my hope and prayer that in some small way you will be convinced of its importance, not only in fulfilling "The Charge" but in honoring your duty to your Confederate Forebears.

As always, I leave you with this question-

Are you a Guardian? If not, why not?

"I honor my Confederate ancestors and would have joined them in that cause."

"I have found nothing to cause me to think my ancestor was anything but an honest man."

"I will never be ashamed of my ancestors. I am and always will be proud of them, for their service, their bravery, and the honor they brought forth. What I am ashamed of is that my country wishes to eradicate Confederate history and act like it never happened. I salute my ancestors!"



The Sons of Confederate Veterans is a non-profit, heritage organization whose mission is to preserve the history and legacy of Confederate veterans. It is not associated with any anti-government or hate groups. Membership is open to any male descendent of a Confederate veteran who served honorably in the Confederate armed forces.



UPSHUR CO. PATRIOTS **GUARDIANS**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Guardian</u> <u>Status</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>Graves</u>
Phil Davis	Full	29
Kim Duffey	Full	3
Jamie Eitson	Full/GPT	8
Chris Loyd	Full	5
George Linton	Full/W/GPT	40
Tommy Mitchell	Full	5
Eddie Pricer	Full/GPT	33
Milt Ojeman	Full/GPT	4
David Palmer	Full	1
Bill Palmer	Full	10
Tommy Ray	Full/GPT	18
Bill Starnes	Full/W/GPT	7
Frank Smith	Full	2
Mitch Tyson	Full	3

W=Wilderness GPT=Guardian Pro Tem

OUR PLEDGES



PLEDGE TO THE U.S. FLAG:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag
Of the United States of America, And to the
republic for which it stands, One nation,
under God, indivisible, With liberty and
justice for all.



PLEDGE TO THE TEXAS FLAG:

Honor the Texas Flag; I
pledge allegiance to thee Texas, one state
under God, one and indivisible.



SALUTE TO THE CONFEDERATE FLAG:

I salute the Confederate Flag With affection,
reverence, and Undying devotion to the
cause For which it stands.

*"Fate is the course when men
Fail to act."*



CHARGE TO THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

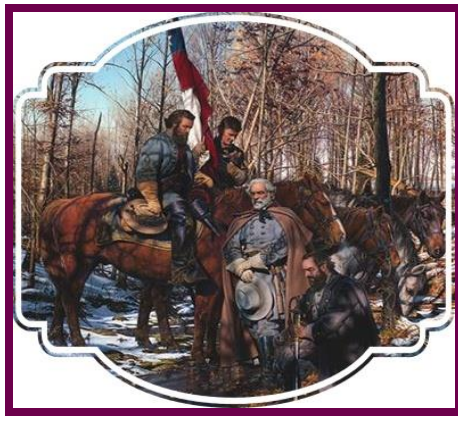
"To you, Sons of Confederate
Veterans, we will commit the
vindication of the cause for which we
fought. To your strength will be given
the defense of the Confederate
soldier's good name, the guardianship
of his history, the emulation of his
virtues, the perpetuation of those
principles which he loved and which
you love also, and those ideals which
made him glorious and which you also
cherish."



**"Remember, it is your duty to see that the
true history of the South is presented to
future generations."**



Lt. General Stephen Dill Lee, Commander
United Confederate Veterans
New Orleans, Louisiana, April 25, 1906.



A NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

By: W.R. Hunt

Dear Lord, please give me...A few friends
who understand me and yet remain friends.
A work to do which has real value, without
which the world would feel the poorer.
A mind unafraid to travel, even though the
trail be not blazed.

An understanding heart...A sense of humor.
Time for quiet, silent meditation.

A feeling of the presence of God.

And the patience to wait for the coming of
these things, with the wisdom to know
them when they come.

*"Let us thank God for all the blessings he
gave us on the year that is ending and ask
him to bless our homes on the coming year.
Many congratulations on this 2019 "*



HISTORICAL DATES IN JANUARY

January 3, 1861 – Georgia Militia under the command of Francis "Frank" Bartow seize Fort Pulaski at the mouth of the Savannah River.

January 3, 1862 - The Battle of Cockpit Point, also known as Batteries at Evansport, the Battle of Freestone Point, or the Battle of Shipping Point. The Battle took place in Prince William County, Virginia, as part of the blockade of the Potomac River.

January 31, 1862 - President Lincoln issues General War Order No. 1 calling for all United States naval and land forces to begin a general advance.

Dec. 31 –Jan. 3, 1863 - The Battle of Stones River.

January 1, 1863 - President Lincoln issues the final Emancipation Proclamation freeing all slaves in territories held by Confederates and emphasizes the enlisting of black soldiers in the Union Army.

January 29, 1863 - Gen. Grant is placed in command of the Army of the West, with orders to capture Vicksburg.

January 31, 1865 - The U.S. Congress approves the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, to abolish slavery. The amendment is then submitted to the states for ratification.

THE BATTLE OF COCKPIT POINT

From: civilwarbattles.com



The Battle of Cockpit Point, also known as Batteries at Evansport, the Battle of Freestone Point, or the Battle of Shipping Point, took place on January 3, 1862, in Prince William County, Virginia, as part of the blockade of the Potomac River during the American Civil War.

After victory at First Bull Run, the Confederate States Army established a defensive line from Centreville along the Occoquan River to the Potomac River. The Confederates used the Potomac's banks as gun positions to halt Union traffic on the river, protecting Manassas Junction to the west and Fredericksburg to the south and to close the Potomac River to shipping and isolate Washington.

On January 1, 1862, Cockpit Point was shelled by Anacostia (Lieutenant Oscar C. Badger commanding) and Yankee (Lieutenant Eastman commanding), with neither side gaining an advantage, though Yankee was slightly damaged.

Union ships approached the point again on March 9 but discovered that the Confederates had abandoned their works and retired closer to Richmond, after

effectively sealing off the Potomac River for nearly five months.

SIEGE OF FORT PULASKI

From: wikipedia.org



On January 3, 1861, sixteen days before the secession of Georgia from the Union, volunteer militia seized Fort Pulaski from the Federal government and, with Confederate forces, began repairing and upgrading the armament. In late 1861, the commander, Department of Georgia, General Alexander Robert Lawton would transfer to Richmond. On November 5, General Robert E. Lee assumed command of the newly created "Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida".

Fort Pulaski was considered invincible with its 7-1/2-foot solid brick walls and reinforcing masonry piers. General Robert E. Lee had earlier surveyed the fort's defenses with Colonel Olmstead and determined, "they will make it pretty warm for you here with shells, but they cannot breach your walls at that distance." Wide swampy marshes surrounded the fort on all sides and were infested with native alligators.

Heavy caliber rifled cannon which the Federals needed to reduce Pulaski had arrived nearby in February.

Following prohibitive rain squalls on the ninth, all was ready for the Federals by April 10th. As the day wore on, counter-battery fire from Fort Pulaski were gradually silenced as their guns were either dismantled or rendered unserviceable.

"Lessons learned" by the Confederates were immediately incorporated into the defenses of Charleston, SC.



MARY CUSTIS LEE CHALLENGES STREETCAR SEGREGATION

From: weta.org

On the evening of June 13, 1902, Mary Custis Lee was arrested on an Alexandria streetcar for sitting in the section reserved for black patrons. As the daughter of Robert E. Lee, the General of the Confederate Army, the incident caused quite a stir within the community.

On her way to visit a friend, and being burdened with many large bags, Miss Lee chose to sit near the rear of the car in order to easily exit upon arriving at her destination. Shortly after she sat down the conductor Thomas Chauncey "explained the Virginia law on the subject, but being ignorant of the existence of the law herself, and also being loth to move her baggage, she protested." At that time, Chauncey let

her stay seated. Even after being threatened with arrest, Miss Lee refused to give up her seat.

Upon exiting the streetcar a few stops later, she was met by two police officers who informed her she was under arrest. Officers Bettis and Sherwood escorted Miss Lee to the station.

As other streetcar passengers and onlookers realized who she was, crowds began to form.

Several "gray-haired men, many of whom had doubtless served under her father" protested against Miss Lee's holding. Confronted with the dilemma of arresting a woman of Miss Lee's status, she was released under the condition that she appears for a court hearing the next day.

As of 1902, Alexandria and Fairfax were the only localities within Virginia which mandated that blacks and whites sit in separate areas of streetcars. Statewide segregation on rail lines wouldn't happen until 1906.

THE REDEEMERS

From: wikipedia.org

In United States history, the Redeemers were a political coalition in the Southern United States during the Reconstruction Era that followed the Civil War. Redeemers were the southern wing of the Bourbon Democrats, the conservative, pro-business faction in the Democratic Party, who pursued a policy of Redemption, seeking to oust the Radical Republicans, a coalition of freedmen, "carpetbaggers", and

"scalawags". They generally were led by the rich landowners, businessmen and professionals, and dominated Southern politics in most areas from the 1870s to 1910.

During Reconstruction, the South was under occupation by federal forces and Southern state governments were dominated by Republicans. Republicans nationally pressed for the granting of political rights to the newly freed slaves as the key to their becoming full citizens.

Reconstruction governments were unpopular with many white Southerners, who were not willing to accept defeat and continued to try to prevent black political activity by any means. While the elite planter class often supported insurgencies, violence against freedmen and other Republicans was usually carried out by other whites; insurgency took the form of the secret Ku Klux Klan in the first years after the war.

By the presidential election of 1876, only three Southern states – Louisiana, South Carolina, and Florida – were "unredeemed", or not yet taken over by white Democrats. The disputed Presidential election between Rutherford B. Hayes (the Republican governor of Ohio) and Samuel J. Tilden (the Democratic governor of New York) was allegedly resolved by the Compromise of 1877, also known as the Corrupt Bargain. Hayes became president in exchange for numerous favors to the South, one of which was the removal of Federal troops from the remaining "unredeemed" Southern states; this was however a policy Hayes had endorsed during his campaign. With the

removal of these forces, Reconstruction came to an end.

NEW YEAR'S FOLKLORE

Some customs and beliefs are simply passed down through the ages. Here are some favorite age-old sayings and proverbs.

"On New Year's Eve, kiss the person you hope to keep kissing."

"If New Year's Eve night winds blow south, it betokeneth warmth and growth."

"For abundance in the New Year, fill your pockets and cupboards today."

"If the old year goes out like a lion, the New Year will come in like a lamb."

"Begin the New Year square with every man. [i.e., pay your debts!]" –Robert B. Thomas, founder of The Old Farmer's Almanac



Roxanne Gipe is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation by Commander Milt Ojeman. Roxanne has given her time and talent to assist our camp in many ways.

September 1, 1906, Gilmer Postmaster F.L. Bradley was ordered by the court to put five electric lights in the post office, which was a little brick building situated on the southwest corner of the courthouse lawn.

**THE PHOTOS BELOW ARE
FROM OUR ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS GATHERING**



Past ATM Commander Johnnie Holley and
Camp Commander Milt Ojeman



5th Brigade Commander Sam Mercer
Leads us in "Roll Call" to honor our
Ancestors.



To View Some Confederate History
Click on the Links Below

**ECHOES OF THE BLUE & GRAY, Gettysburg
Reunion**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GeLGa
sX8FHk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GeLGa
sX8FHk)

**Civil War Veterans at 50 yr. Anniversary in
1913 & 75yr Anniversary in 1938**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mVjD2
DaB4bY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mVjD2
DaB4bY)

**TRUMP ADMINISTRATION
SPENDING MILLIONS FOR
CONFEDERATE
CEMETERIES**

From: thinkprogress.org

President Donald Trump's Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has "quietly" spent millions of dollars on private security for Confederate cemeteries since the violent "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville, Virginia in August 2017.

Records obtained by The Associated Press through the Freedom of Information Act show that the VA has spent nearly \$3 million on the cemetery security since August 2017. Another \$1.6 million is budgeted for fiscal 2019 to pay for security at all Confederate monuments, which could include other sites. The agency has not determined when the security will cease.



**BATTLESHIP TEXAS TO RE-
OPEN THIRD DECK,
ENGINE ROOM JAN. 5**

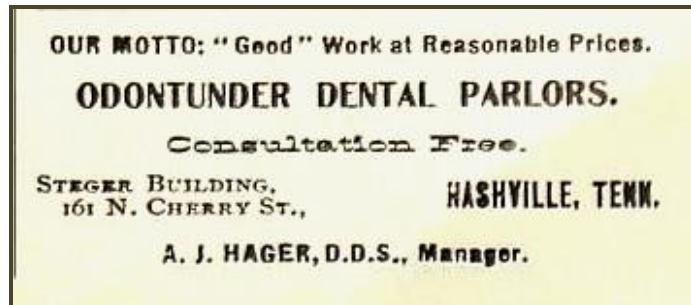
From: tpwd.texas.gov

LA PORTE — the final phase of repairs, cleaning and safety upgrades to the third deck of the Battleship Texas is scheduled to conclude Saturday, January 5, 2019. To commemorate the grand re-opening, the Battleship Texas State Historic Site will host a ribbon cutting and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department staff will be leading special tours of the newly opened areas.

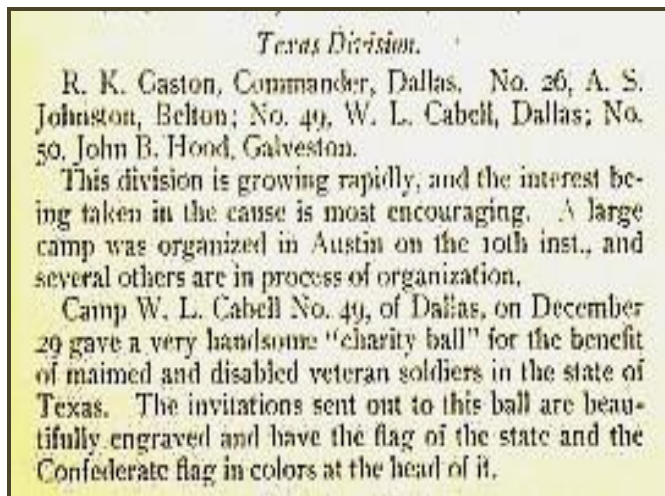
The first round of critical structural repairs to the Battleship Texas began in 2013 when the support structure under the ship's Engine Room and areas of the stern were addressed. The project was completed in January 2015.

Later that year, the Texas Legislature allocated \$25 million for the second phase of structural repairs, which included the steering gear room, D-13 trimming tank, rear emergency diesel generator room, dynamo condenser room, and miscellaneous tanks, trunks and storerooms. This phase of repair work was completed in September 2018.

The Battleship Texas is operated by TPWD. It is permanently moored adjacent to the San Jacinto Battleground and Monument, 3523 Independence Parkway, in La Porte.



Advertisement in the Confederate Veteran Magazine January 1898



Confederate Veteran Magazine January 1898

**"Like birds, let us, leave behind what we
don't need to carry,
Grudges, sadness, pain, fear, and regrets.
Life is beautiful, enjoy it.
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019"**

GILMER STREET NAMES REFLECT THE POLITICS OF 1848

Butler Street was named for Major General Wm O Butler, Colonel Wood's superior officer in the Battle of Buena Vista.

Cass Street was named after Lewis Cass, a senator from Michigan, who participated in the annexation of Texas.

Harrison Street was named after a lawyer, Jonas Harrison.

Henderson Street was named for the first Governor J. Pickney Henderson and the next street over is Wood, Governor at the time of the sale of Texas and who helped defeat the Mexicans.

Kaufman Street was named after David S Kaufman, who represented the residents of Upshur County in the first Congressional District.

Marshall Street was named rightly because it leads to Marshall, Harrison County, Texas.

STORIES OF UPSHUR COUNTY

There were stories circulated over the county that during the Civil War there was a lead mine in Upshur County which was operated by the Confederate Government. When the war was over it was closed to prevent the Yankees from finding it - where it was, nobody seems to know. One of the stories is as follows: A Mr. Nash had started a foundry before the war for working up the

iron ore among the small mountains nearby, probably 5 to 6 miles east of Murry League (now Ore City) and also pottery works, baking all kinds of earthenware, and was prospering highly in this works when the war came along. The Confederate Government either bought this plant or took it over for its use during the war. There were many hundreds of men employed by the Government working in the plant with their families living there. It was a great sight for anybody to see, especially the young boys. This plant could have been just across Big Cypress or it could have been on this side of Upshur County.

TELLING THE TRUTH TO CHILDREN

*From: The Confederate Veteran Magazine
January 1898*

{As true today as it was in 1898}

Gen. Vincent Marmaduke, of Missouri, writes from his home at Sweet Springs an address upon the subject of history to Confederates, in which he states:



“The honor and glory of this great struggle was with the South, and Southern Soldiers ought, in justice to themselves and their dead comrades, preserve the memory of it.” While the North and Northern soldiers are inveighing against all manifestation of sectional feeling, they are erecting monuments to their successful leaders and telling the story very much to their credit and to our detriment.

The North had numerous advantages such as, unlimited credit (which meant an unlimited supply of money), factories, and railroads. The South had none of these advantages, or had them for only a limited extent.

It is the duty of every enlightened Southern man to see that the truth – not biased accounts – of the history of the Civil War is transmitted to posterity. The nobleness, the chivalry, the self-denial, the bravery, and the tireless endurance of the Confederate Soldier should be instilled into every Southern child. No history should be taught them which picture their ancestors as traitors and rebels. They should understand the great principles which were contended for prior to the war.

Southern children ought to know of the imperishable grandeur of Gen. Lee and the magnificence in battle of Stonewall Jackson. The renown of the Confederate Soldier is not told in splendid moments; it rests in the hearts of the Southern people, and there it must be kept fresh and green forever. They want their children to receive facts. From facts, no conclusion can be drawn derogatory to the courage of Southern Soldiers or to the genius and military prowess of Southern Generals.





Coffee Mugs and Coasters
Caps and Flags are available for a donation
to our Camp fund. Contact Eddie Pricer or
any Camp Officer.



We thank Bill Starnes
And the Starnes Family
for providing a meeting
Place for the
Upshur Co. Patriots



We are proud to be associated with the
United Daughters of the Confederacy.



**SUPPORT THE UPSHUR
COUNTY MUSEUM**



Comments or suggestions should be made
to: David Palmer, Editor
david.palmer@upshurpatriots.org